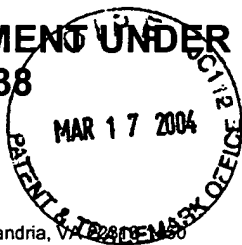


**EXPRESS ABANDONMENT UNDER  
37 CFR 1.138**

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Application Number	09/970,576
Filing Date	October 3, 2001
First Named Inventor	Michael V. Chobotov
Art Unit	3738
Examiner Name	C. Miller
Attorney Docket Number	21630-000320US

Please **check only one** of boxes 1 or 2 below:

(If no box is checked, this paper will be treated as a request for express abandonment as of the filing date of this paper.)

1. ☐ **Express Abandonment**  
I request that the above-identified application be expressly abandoned as of the filing date of this paper.
2. ☒ **Express Abandonment in Favor of a Continuing Application**  
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- I am the ☐ applicant.
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Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96)
- ☒ attorney or agent of record.
- ☐ attorney or agent acting under 37 CFR 1.34(a) (may act under 37 CFR 1.34(a) only if box 2 above, stating that the application is expressly abandoned in favor of a continuing application, is checked). Attorney or agent registration number if acting under 37 CFR 1.34(a). \_\_\_\_\_  
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\*Note: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representatives(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below\*.

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